

Central Intelligence Agency

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**MEMORANDUM FOR:** The Honorable Richard R. Burt  
 Assistant Secretary  
 Bureau of European Affairs  
 Department of State

**SUBJECT :** Comments on Europe's Economic Prospects:  
Their Implications for US-European Relations

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on your Office's paper on Europe's economic problems. As you indicated in your note, our analysis of West European economic prospects is much the same as your staff's. I should point out, however, that we are less sanguine about Western Europe's ability to muddle through the remainder of the decade, and are more concerned about the consequences for the United States of poor economic performance in Europe. Attached are more detailed comments on these points. We did not directly address the paper's policy recommendations.



Robert M. Gates  
 Deputy Director for Intelligence

Attachment: As stated

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